



# INDEXA

Helping to Make DX Happen Since 1983

Fall 2017

[www.indexa.org](http://www.indexa.org)

Issue 119

A 501(c)(3) non-profit organization for the enhancement of amateur radio, worldwide peace, and friendship

## INDEXA

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**A**t the end of 2016 I received a question from previous EP2A DXpedition members—what are the plans for our next DXpedition?

At that time I already had some ideas on where to go next and one of those options was Bangladesh, number 56 on the most wanted DX list. After doing some research on how to ac-

quire a license, I submitted the first request for a license on 6th of January. Three weeks passed and there was no response so I called them by phone and it turned out that they never received my papers. We talked and I decided to visit them in person a week later to discuss and acquire the license.

Together with XYL Zigrida we planned our trip and flew to Dhaka. A possible QTH I had in mind was a place near Kuakata in the South of Bangladesh. It had to be outside the city to have less radio interference and more space for building antennas. I also wanted it to be close to the sea. The plan was to travel from Dhaka to Kuakata by a rented car, but after experiencing the different driving traffic culture, we quickly changed our minds and used public transportation.

On the first evening of our travel we met with Syed S21ED and Anup S21TV in Dhaka. Syed offered to be our guide during our stay in Bangladesh. First thing next morning we visited the Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission (BTRC) and met with the officials to discuss and present documents for our license. I asked for a callsign with a one letter suffix, but all of them were taken. Also I was informed about

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## Bangladesh 2017—S21ZED/S21ZEE By Yuris Petersons, YL2GM



**The Bangladesh team: Oleg US7UX, Igor UT5UJO, Dimitry UT7UJ, Sasha UT7UV, Anup S21TV, Syed S21ED, Yuris YL2GM, Ingus YL2TW and Kaspars YL3AIW.**

**inside...**

***A message from INDEXA's new President, Where are our missing members? and more . . .***



**INDEXA**

# INDEXA

## Second Front Page

Fall 2017

[www.indexa.org](http://www.indexa.org)

Issue 119

## *The President's Message*

INDEXA members and friends,

It is an honor to have been asked to lead INDEXA as President. Gary K4MQG was INDEXA's first President at its inception over 30 years ago. He returned to serve again for the last 10 years. Filling Gary's shoes will be a weird experience for sure. Luckily, Gary has agreed to stay on the executive board to provide us with guidance as we transition. I'd be remiss if I didn't mention the hard working officers of INDEXA John Scott K8YC, Vice President/editor, and Dick Williams W3OA, Secretary/Treasurer who do so much of the work behind the scenes! I will be relying on them heavily for sure! Many of you know me. For those who do not, I will give you a little overview. I am 66 years old and have been licensed since 1965. My XYL is Beth KF2BQ who I met at our local amateur radio club. We have 3 children from our previous lives. Beth has one son, and I have twin sons. We were both single parents. I worked for the local telephone company as a central office technician and Beth was an elementary school teacher. We are both retired.

My amateur radio interests have varied over the years. But chasing DX has almost always been my primary focus. I have dabbled in contests at times. I even won a few back in the 1970's. I was an active traffic handler in the ARRL's NTS for several years, primarily on CW. I can remember how much fun it was to enter the old ARRL CD Parties which as I recall were run quarterly and gave me good CW proficiency practice in the time before "F key CW". I even spent some time on 2 meter AM of all things. (I probably missed a couple of new ones during that year or so!). I always had a keen interest in organizing amateur radio clubs going back to my high school years.

My current DXCC total is 359/339. Yes, I am in the #1 club. I ran an old TA33SR that fell off the roof of a Lafayette Radio store. The manager gave it to me! I straightened it out and used it for about 7 or 8 years! What most of you don't know is that I never ran more than 100 watts until about 1976 when I got my first amplifier. I built an SB220 back then and kept it running for about 10 years. After that I had an AL811 for quite a while. Currently, I run a K3 and KPA500. That's my primary station. I've had a few backups that change. (I never want to be off the air because a rig died.) I guess the point I am making is that I am very proud that I have been able to work them all, and did it running mostly between 100 and 600 watts. Back in 2014, I was able to purchase a "legal limit" amplifier. I have only turned it on a few times. Time to sell it I guess?

So, if you had a vision that I had acreage here with multiple 100 foot towers, and abundant "legal limit" amplifiers, you were wrong. I'm a modest station guy. And over the years, I have been blessed with using my skill, and having some luck to be able to have worked them all. I guess the only sugges-

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## Bangladesh 2017—S21ZED/S21ZEE (con'd)

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special regulations that foreign operators can receive licenses valid only for seven days, and this was the reason why we had to operate with two callsigns. You can get licenses for a longer time, but it has to be arranged through an embassy and it takes much time. We scheduled our next meeting after five days



**First meeting—Me Yuris YL2GM, XYL Zigrida, Syed S21ED and Anup S21TV.**

to find out what callsigns could be assigned. Next morning we sailed on a small ferry from Dhaka to Barisal and from there drove by bus to Kuakata—the city called Kingdom of the Oceans Daughter. We visited our planned QTH—a hotel with small cottages and big field next to them for antennas and the sea just a couple hundred meters away.



**Our prospective operating sight.**

Bangladesh has a lot of natural historic beauties and one of them is The Bay of Bengal which is situated in the south of Bangladesh with many beautiful sea beaches, e.g. Cox's Bazar sea beach, Kuakata sea beach, Patenga Sea beach and many more. You will be entertained to see the white sandy beaches and blue sky, the sunrise and sunset looks unbelievable. The next most visited place in Bangladesh is Sundarbans forest—a large mangrove forest with one of the biggest wildlife collections in the World.

After four days travel we returned to capital city Dhaka and right away visited BTRC, where I received vocal confirmation about two callsigns S21GM and S21KW and that the written form (license) was to be issued only 2 days before operations begin. We also discussed the matters regarding equipment.

Just two weeks after first publication about our DXpedition I received an email from BTRC, stating that we won't be able to use previously desired callsigns because foreign amateurs can only get callsigns with three letter suffixes starting with letter Z.

### The Team

The most important and complicated task for organizing DXpeditions is completing the team. This time we had some new members: Kaspars YL3AIW, Ingus YL2TW and Igor UT5UJO. Unfortunately, because of health issues we had to go without Larry YL3CW and Andrey UX1UF could not join us because of work. (The team is pictured on Page 1.)

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**INDEXA**

#### Editor & Publisher

John Scott, K8YC; 221 Beracah Place  
Mooresville, NC 28115 USA  
veep@indexa.org

#### Distribution & Circulation

Dick Williams, W3OA  
398 Lakeview Shores Loop  
Mooresville, NC 28117 USA  
secretary@indexa.org

Membership applications are available at:  
[www.indexa.org/application.html](http://www.indexa.org/application.html)

Address general correspondence to President Bob Schenck, N2OO, at  
n2oo@comcast.net.



## Bangladesh 2017—S21ZED/S21ZEE (con'd)

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### Equipment and Antennas

Three weeks before the DXpedition began I flew to Kiev and met with our Ukrainian team members. We discussed DXpedition equipment, antennas, and other matters.

I also met with local Hams, where I had the opportunity to talk about our previous DXpedition EP2A and our next project S21. After my presentation RigExpert founder Serge UX1UA gave me their newest antenna analyzer “AA-55 ZOOM” as a gift and to support to our DXpedition. This new analyzer is a perfect tool for antenna tuning and it helped us significantly.

In addition, on this trip I also brought two pieces of luggage containing antenna equipment to manage logistics for our later trip. However, we would still have some problems with baggage limitations. For our flight from Kiev to Dhaka on Turkish Airlines, I found we would only be permitted to have 20kg baggage per person and every additional kilogram would cost \$21 for transport! I turned to Turkish Airlines' affiliate in Riga seeking a baggage sponsorship request for our DXpedition but without success, because our flight was to originate from Kiev, not Riga. After looking for an affiliate in Ukraine, it turned out that there was none. So I had to make a decision to limit team's personal baggage to a minimum.

For this DXpedition we planned two separate operating positions at our QTH and we used IC-7300's and that was a great choice. They operated very well especially in RTTY and SSB modes. On low bands and CW we preferred Elecraft K3. As power amplifiers we used SPE Expert 1.3k-FA which is a fine choice for DXpeditions. For receiving we used 250m Beverages which gave good results on 80 and 160m.

### Travel to Bangladesh (QTH)

Early in the morning on March 13<sup>th</sup> we landed in Dhaka airport. Nobody waited for us there and we could not get visas because we didn't have hotel reservations on hand. After 4 hours of waiting Syed (S21ED) arrived straight from the BTRC with a permission letter and we finally could receive our visas. Further formalities went smoothly without any setbacks.



Early morning arrival at Dhaka airport.

From the airport we went to Syed's brothers' apartment where we waited for our bus to Kuakata scheduled to depart at 18:30 that day. Our trip to the bus station was in peak rush hour and we arrived at the bus station after more than a one hour delay. Thankfully, when in traffic we had contacted the transportation company and they waited for us. Then, in a very comfortable ride, we drove all night for about 400km including two ferry crossings to cross water. The whole team had a good night's sleep during the night trip since there was little to see in the darkness. Next morning at about 09:00AM we arrived in Kuakata.

In Kuakata's bus station we were warmly welcomed by my friends and acquaintances I met in Bangladesh during my previous visit in January 2017. Also, seven bicycle carts awaited us there. We loaded our equipment and boarded them for a 6km ride to our operating QTH—Cinderella Resort. Upon our arrival we were welcomed with a nice breakfast. After meal and morning coffee we started setting up antennas and made a first radio check.

### DXpedition Diary

Day 1: First installed antenna was a Spiderbeam, followed by foursquares on 40m and 30m. First QSO was made by Dmitry UT7UJ on 40m. During the rest of the day we worked on the 160/80m antenna. The field where we built it was soaking wet after rainfalls and full of puddles with mud so that was quite challenging. We also made a mistake when we set up the 160/80m antenna in a place where a local rancher pastures his cows and goats,

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## Bangladesh 2017—S21ZED/S21ZEE (con'd)



**Spiderbeam erection on day one at Cinderella Resort**

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and they liked to walk over the radials!

Day 2: The 2<sup>nd</sup> station was planned to be set up during the first night, however, our plans had to be changed because the land owner had flown to Canada and he hadn't left a note with those remaining behind granting us permission to set up antennas on his property. Anyway, next morning we started with a group breakfast and after that Syed S21ED and I went to look for another place for a 2<sup>nd</sup> position. We visited multiple hotels and houses but most of them had problems with fields for antennas and power. After finding a suitable place, Ingus



**Despite some early setbacks, we were on the air!**

YL2TW, Sasha UT7UV and I took all equipment and went to build 2<sup>nd</sup> position. By the evening we had set up a Spiderbeam and RA6LBS vertical on 160m to 30m so the 2<sup>nd</sup> position could start to operate. First communications were made on SSB and RTTY.

Right after that we received bad news—160/80m antenna in the 1<sup>st</sup> position had disappeared! It turned out that one of the rancher's cows had run into the cables and torn down the antenna. It was already dark so we decided to repair and place it closer to our position in the morning. During the following night we operated without 160/80m.

Day 3-4: In the morning we carried out our plans regarding 160/80 vertical and we also put up a rope perimeter in order to limit any movement around the antennas by the livestock.

Later in the evening it started to rain and the intensity got stronger and stronger until it was so intense that we had a minor flood in our house. Wind gusts were also pretty intense and during the night one of our Spiderbeam's guy wires ripped apart and the pole bent. We didn't stop operating because we had an extra emergency three-bander 14/21/28. In the morning rain stopped and in two hours we managed to fix the Spiderbeam.



**Our resourceful team quickly put the Spiderbeam back in working order.**

Our 2<sup>nd</sup> position operated on SSB and RTTY. We did what we could and what was within our influ-

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## Bangladesh 2017—S21ZED/S21ZEE (con'd)

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ence regarding low bands. We put a lot of emphasis on working NA, but the propagation was just not helping. Every morning and evening we were on 14 MHz for NA.

Last day: In the morning Dmitry/UT7UJ managed to work W8LRL on top-band, which was our only QSO with North America on 160m. Long distance QSOs on 160 and 80m bands would not be possible without beverage antennas.

After that we took down antennas, packed and had farewell dinner at Cinderella Resort, which had been our home for two weeks.

### Summary Statistics

The most QSOs made during this expedition (more than 10,000) were done by Kaspars YL3AIW, so this time the “CW machine” title went to him.

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Kaspars YL3AIW, just kept on “running”. He won the title of our “CW Machine”.

## Total DXpedition QSOs: 51,892

Band/Mode breakdown S21ZED

Band	PH	CW	RTTY	Total	Total %
160	0	322	0	322	0.015
80	0	1393	0	1393	0.063
40	468	4100	0	4568	0.208
30	0	2768	106	2874	0.131
20	886	2146	122	3154	0.144
17	776	2891	0	3667	0.167
15	955	2794	543	4292	0.196
12	284	858	0	1142	0.052
10	251	280	0	531	0.024
<b>Totals</b>	<b>3620</b>	<b>17552</b>	<b>771</b>	<b>21943</b>	

Band/Mode breakdown S21ZEE

Band	PH	CW	RTTY	Total	Total %
160	0	582	0	582	0.019
80	0	2006	0	2006	0.067
40	354	3968	670	4992	0.166
30	0	2776	152	2928	0.078
20	1245	3334	1246	5825	0.194
17	1362	3878	837	6077	0.203
15	1555	3086	925	5566	0.186
12	425	794	1	1220	0.041
10	204	469	119	792	0.026
<b>Totals</b>	<b>5145</b>	<b>20893</b>	<b>3950</b>	<b>29988</b>	

Continent by Mode S21ZED

Band	PH	CW	RTTY	Total	Total %
AF	19	50	0	69	0.3%
AN	0	0	0	0	0.0%
AS	1900	6608	451	8959	40.8%
EU	1622	9795	314	11731	53.5%
NA	15	856	0	871	4.0%
OC	50	157	6	213	1.0%
SA	14	86	0	100	0.5%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>3620</b>	<b>17552</b>	<b>771</b>	<b>21943</b>	

Continent by Mode S21ZEE

Band	PH	CW	RTTY	Total	Total %
AF	16	91	11	118	0.4%
AN	0	2	0	2	0.0%
AS	2117	5968	1465	9550	31.8%
EU	2846	13565	2281	18692	62.3%
NA	91	966	162	1219	4.1%
OC	65	150	19	234	0.8%
SA	10	151	12	173	0.6%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>5145</b>	<b>20893</b>	<b>3950</b>	<b>29988</b>	



## Bangladesh 2017—S21ZED/S21ZEE (con'd)

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### Lessons learned

We have to pay more attention to equipment preparation and tuning before the expedition in order to avoid interference between stations.

Also for this expedition I acquired used laptops for each station and we had some performance issues. For next DXpedition, new computers are going to be a priority.

We also need to take into account equipment transportation limitations and plan accordingly. Firstly, it's not always possible to take all bandpass filters with us because of their size; secondly coaxial cables RF240LTA are pretty heavy—800 meters length weigh approximately 36kg. Also radial wires for verticals—even if small in diameter—weigh a lot when you have a 1km length of it! I see two options here—seek lighter equipment and/or different transportation options to overcome these expenses.

And finally, the most important lesson I had to learn once more—not to publish too much information about DXpedition prior to its start. Again we had some problems because of this. I will think more on this issue and how to do this in future, however I ask you to be understanding in case the infor-

mation on our next DXpedition is published just on the starting day.

### Hams with Hearts program

S21ZED/S21ZEE team participated in INDEXA's organized humanitarian aid program "Hams With Hearts" <http://indexa.org/hamswithaheart.html> Through our website we invited radio amateurs to support this project and in total we raised 390 EUR (412 USD) for this event. Most generous supporter was INDEXA with 300 USD.

With the help of local ham's—Syed S21ED and Anup S21TV—we bought exercise books, writing materials, and sports equipment for pupils in Kuakata and Dhaka.

Thanks to everyone who supported this project and helped to make more than 250 little hearts and 3 schools in Bangladesh quite happy.

(Note: A full article on this activity was published in the "DX Column" of CQ Magazine. It can be viewed using the INDEXA website by clicking on the "New Items" tag and then choosing the item "June 2017 CQ Magazine Column".)

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With pupils and teachers in Kuakata's school



## Bangladesh 2017—S21ZED/S21ZEE (con'd)

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### Conclusion

DXpedition S21ZED/S21ZEE is completed. It was my second DXpedition which I organized after EP2A in 2016. Propagation was worse and it was difficult to work North American stations.

Because of special Bangladesh state regulations we had to use two callsigns, and other than that, everything went down smoothly with thanks to Syed S21ED and Anup S21TV. Without their help this would not have been possible. In our team we had real men ready for action and new adventures. I am willing to go with them to any place in the World. Thank you team! And thanks to our support team who stayed at home!

Thanks to everyone who supported and followed us in our DXpedition journey to Bangladesh.

What will be our next DXpedition will show up in time. Please be understanding that the news about our next DXpedition may appear on the day it starts to operate.

In addition, next year, 2018, is Latvia's 100 year anniversary and we will organize a radio amateur event. More information about this event will appear later.

All information and pictures from S21ZED/S21ZEE can be seen on our webpage <http://www.lral.lv/s21zed/index.html>

73, Yurís /YL2GM/





## INDEXA Leadership Changes For 2017-18

**A**long with the beginning of INDEXA's 36<sup>th</sup> year of "helping to make DX happen", some new leaders have taken their places on our Board of Directors and in the President's position. In its 35 years of operation, there have been only four presidents to hold the office. Our retiring President **Gary Dixon** has served as President since the fall of 2007 as well as serving as INDEXA's first President and a director for a number of other years. All of us thank Gary for providing his leadership over the years. Our new President, **Bob Schenck** N200, introduces himself in his letter to all of you on the "Second Front Page" of this newsletter (Page 2).

Ever since the first days of INDEXA, the name of **Bill Jennings**, W4UNP, has appeared on the lineup of officers/directors of our organization. Bill was the ONLY Secretary/Treasurer of INDEXA for its first 30+ years and has served as a director since early 2013. This issue of the newsletter will be the first time EVER that Bill's name won't be among the named leaders of INDEXA. Thank you for your years of service to INDEXA, Bill!

A source of fresh ideas for INDEXA has always been its Board of Directors. They are chosen to bring a breadth of skills to the table, but to a person they always have a deep connection to DXing and amateur radio as well as displaying a willingness to serve. With the elections just concluded, INDEXA is pleased to introduce **Joe Aoki** (JJ3PRT), **Lou Dietrich** (N2TU), and **Roberto Ramirez** (CE3CT) as our three newest directors.

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Joe gives us a rundown of his radio "passage" via his QRZ.COM page as follows:

"I was born in October 1951, which makes me 66 by the time you read this. I was first licensed in Tokyo as JA1WSA in March 1966. I've lived a year or two in Palo Alto, California and Paris, France, but was unable to get licensed at those venues due to bureaucratic red tape. I received the callsign I now have (JJ3PRT) in Osaka in 1982. I've also held callsigns: VK2EVP/LH, XX9WS, and WV2Y. The W2 callsign was what I held in Paramus, NJ where I lived from 1989-94.

I returned to Nara in 1994 where the glimmerings of building a mountaintop antenna farm arose. I got up with the chickens and went to bed with the owls every weekend starting in November 2009 to build up this station on the top of the mountain. So when I came back to my home at night, I was a whipped puppy. However I finally completed the fully remote controlled station in September 2010!! It sits 500 meters above sea level. Only a loony guy could make it. A loony guy made a loony station at last. So I am as happy as a dead pig in the sunshine now. A photo of my 'masterpiece' is shown below."




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Roberto introduces himself as follows:

"Now as CE3CT (also VE7BFN), more than 30 years ago I started to be part of the radio amateur world. My beginnings started by listening to shortwave radios from far away places as a SWL. In a short time I got my first license CE4PBB.

I have been an active promoter of the activity of contests and DX in Chile. Today, I have in my records about the 300 confirmed entities, WAS and WAZ in the 5 bands. This has not been easy from this side of the world—especially on 80m and 160m, since Chile is surrounded by mountains especially

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## Leadership Changes (con'd)

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towards the US and AFRICA.

I am an Electronic Engineer. I am 45 years old, and I own a consulting company for the design of transport networks with links of Microwave for companies of mobile cellphone from 2.4 GHZ to 80 GHZ. I have applied my accumulated knowledge from my vocation in the construction of my amateur radio station that resides on a plot of 5000 square meters (about 1.25 acres-Ed.).

My station has been visited by radio amateurs from many parts of the world. It seems to be an obligatory stop for the frequent expeditionaries of CE0Y and CE0Z.

I am a member of other DX groups and competitions such as the LU Contest Group, BC DX Club (VE7) and DXXE (Mexico).

I hope to be able to make a contribution to the INDEXA team of directors, generate new ideas, and mainly extend INDEXA's message to South America hams."

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Lou provides us a glimpse of his radio "career" in the following way:

"I originally was licensed as WV2RNW in the early 60's during my High School years. Upgraded to WA2RNW but allowed that call to lapse due to other priorities . . . "Family, College and Worklife". I re-licensed as KA2MBC, in 1981, upgraded to NN2G and "vanitized" over to N2TU. I chose "TU" because we have a lot to be thankful for! This is a wonderful hobby with fantastic people from all walks of life..

I'm an avid DXer, attaining Top of The Honor Roll and Ten Band DXCC.

I need one more on RTTY (BS7) and one more on CW (P5) to have 'Worked Them All!'

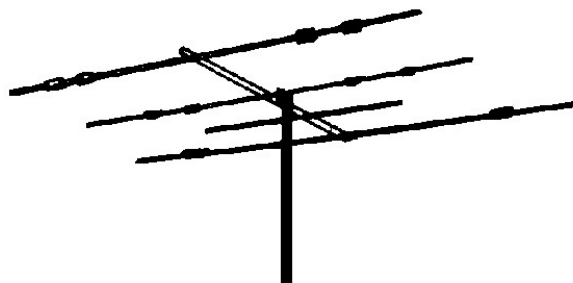
I also like to chase IOTA and DXCC band fills (DXCC Challenge).

I've operated from:

4U1UN- UN Headquarters  
HS0AC- Radio Amateur Society of Thailand  
HQ CLUB STATION  
2012 Swains Island NH8S DXpedition NH8S  
Team Leader for the K9W Wake 2013 Commemorative DXpedition.  
2015 Navassa Island K1N DXpedition  
Team Co-Leader for K5P Palmyra 2016"

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We'll have a more thorough biographical sketch of each of these fellows in future editions of the newsletter.



## New Additions to INDEXA's Website

Hello INDEXA Members—

INDEXA is now on Facebook and Twitter. Our website provides links to both accounts. You will see links to each at the bottom of the column of buttons on the left side of each page.

You will also see three buttons marked with a "NEW" icon. These will take you to three new pages showing (1) Donors To INDEXA, (2) All current INDEXA members, and (3) INDEXA members who are in the DX Hall of Fame.

We hope you find these additions interesting.

73 and Good DX!  
Dick Williams, W3OA  
Secretary-Treasurer

## “LOST MEMBERS”

INDEXA is trying to locate members with whom we have lost contact. The list below shows members who do not have an email address in our files. They won't see this plea unless they read the newsletter online, because they no longer receive publication notice of the newsletter via email.

Please send an email to [secretary@indexa.org](mailto:secretary@indexa.org) if you are on this list or have an email address for someone on this list so we have an operable email address for these members.

7L1MFS	HIROSHI YOSHIDA
7N4KDU	MASAKATSU IIMURA
BV4JB	YU-MING CHANG
BV7WB	K.H. WANG
DJ5DA	WALTER GRUNDLING
DJ7UO	SIGFRIED STOCKS
DL-SWL	DIETMAR BETZ
DL2AYJ	KLAUS FRANKE
DU3NXE	CHARLES KRESGE
EA1KX	JESUS HUERTA
HB9BVV	FRANZ STUTZ
I2JQ	SERGIO PORRINI
I5HSJ	GABRIELE SALCINO
JA1IRH	AKIO YAMAKATA
JA1QKK	TAMOTSU EBINA
JA3BEA/9	BUNJIRO MURATA
JA6GGD	M. NOGUCHI
JA8IYI	JIRO ANZAI
JE1TGL	BEAR NOBUHIRO OHKUMA
JF0CSK	KATSUHIRO FUJIMORI
JG5UNQ	HIDEMASA KIMURA
JJ1BMB	JUNICHI OHGO
JK6ISK	MAKOTO SAKAMOTO

JM2VYA	KAZUYA SHIMIZU
K0ZSG	RICHARD J. McGLINN
K6BTT	LEE NELSON
K7HEN	MACK G. GILBERT
KA9W	JO ANN HENDERSON
KB2BPM	ANDREA A. STEIN
KB8TE	RON MCKINNON
KD2WQ	KENNETH D. STEIN
KK4LM	MICHAEL L. STEINER
KN2U	KENNETH BOZARTH
KP4UK	MARCUS MALDONADO
KR4W	ERNEST M BRYANT
LU2DAS	ADRIANA GREBE
N0FYR	BURT SCOTT
N0MT	THOMAS MICHAELSON
N1EBT	PETER RASMUSSEN
N1YE	GENE R. GLOVER
N2BYU	GEORGE KULMAN
N2DWR	MARLA BOZARTH
N4KED	JANICE OYSTER
N4PI	E CHARLES MOODY
N6GB	GEORGE M BYRNE
N7UG	JOYCE MEDLEN
N8BEE	DALE SIMPSON
N9UA	MICHAEL LAWRENCE
TU2QQ	MICHEL FADROM
VE7AUX	ANNIE HARMAN
VE7EOF	FRANZ J MITTELHOLZER
W6RJ	ROBERT G. FERRERO
W6TX	RANDY WHITE
W9SF	R. SCOTT FRANCOIS
WA2HZR	DAVID J. CHURCH
WA2ICE	JOAN A. FLOWER
WA2VZQ	KENNETH STIER
WB5LHY	JIMMY R. ROLLINS
XE1O	OSCAR A. OROPEZA
XE1YQM	TINA OROPEZA
YB0ROY	ROY SIREGAR



## *The President's Message (con'd)*

*(Continued from page 2)*

tion I ever gave anyone chasing DX is to be consistent. That's probably what has worked for me over the years. I "NEVER" snoozed when a new "rare one" came on the air. I pursued them as hard as I was able. Luck? That happened too. I've told this story before. But back in March of 1967, I worked my very first VU! It was VU2DIA. Wow, I thought—INDIA! I finally worked INDIA. My old HT37 and Drake 2B and rotary dipole worked my first INDIA! Several months later I received the QSL card in the mail. It said Andaman. Hmm. Andaman? Yes, my first VU was Andaman! And back in those years, Andaman was RARE. Very RARE. Oh, my first VU in INDIA didn't come until October 1967. So, yes, sometimes it is luck!

Over the years, my focus has also been on QSLing. The South Jersey DX Association (SJDXA) was first created in 1977. From around 1978 to 1983 SJDXA worked with the International DX Foundation (IDXF) run by John Ackley. Our team helped with QSLing those operations as well as helping to run the public side of IDXF. I went on my very first DXpedition that was supposed to be to Spratly (Amboyna Cay) in 1979. Upon arriving at the island we were fired on and we retreated back to Brunei where I operated as VS500 while half of the team went back out to a different island and operated as 1S1DX. I handled my own cards (VS500) and arranged to be the QSL Manager for my host in Brunei (VS5MS) and "it stuck". After that, I began picking up QSL clients including SV0AA, 9M6MU, etc. I currently handle well over 150 different operations, a few going back into the 1940's. I started the QSL Managers Society [www.qsl.net/qslmanagers](http://www.qsl.net/qslmanagers) in 2001 after being frustrated hearing that some QSL Managers were either closing logs, throwing them out, or not making any arrangements for someone to take them over after they were unable to handle the work anymore. This was the primary reason I was inducted into the CQ DX Hall of Fame in 2008.

The DXpedition bug bit hard after that first one in 1979. I have been on over 25 DXpeditions to places like Desecheo (1981), Navassa (1982), Spratly (1997 & 1999), Wake (1998), Pratas (2003), Lord Howe (2009), East Malaysia (7 times), Brunei (5 times) among some others. The biggest one was the 2014 FT5ZM DXpedition to Amsterdam Island <http://www.amsterdamdx.org/>. There is simply nothing like being on the other end of a big pileup!

I am currently the President of the South Jersey DX Association (N2CW) and of the Old Barney ARC (N2OB). Three years ago I became the DX Editor for CQ Magazine and I have defeated writer's block every month now for 35 issues.

So, that's the short version of my DX story.

As president of INDEXA, I don't plan to change much. We did get INDEXA on Facebook (INDEXA) and Twitter (#INDEXA\_DX). So, look for us there. I always welcome your input and ideas.

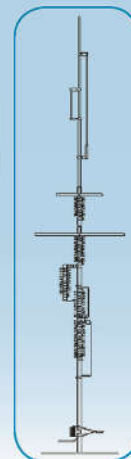
See ya' in the Pileups!

*Bob*

Bob Schenck, N2OO  
President INDEXA

GO INDEXA!

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